

REMARKS

All claims pending in the application have been rejected. By this amendment, claims 15 and 26 have been placed in independent for by amending claims 8 and 25 to incorporate the features of claims 15 and 26, respectively. Claims 16 and 27 have been amended to change their dependency. Claims 13-15, 17-24, 26, and 28-29 are canceled. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of each claim pending in the application in light of the current amendments to the claims.

Rejections under 35 USC § 103

Claims 8, 9, 12, 17-19 and 22-29 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over European Patent Application No. EP1006751A2 (Ramsden) in view of US Patent No. 6,167,029 (Ramakrishnan). Claims 17-19, 22-24, and 26 have been canceled. Claims 8 and 25 have been amended. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of each claim pending in the application in light of the current amendments to the claims.

Claim 8 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 15, making the rejection of claim 15 in the present Action pertinent in place of the rejection of claim 8. Claim 8, as amended, is submitted to be allowable over Ramsden in view of Ramakrishnan further in view of Yu, for at least the following reasons.

Specifically, claim 8 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 15 of:

wherein an LFP transparent pattern is used when said second EoS device identifies and processes an LFP frame; and wherein said second EoS device interprets and executes said LFP frames according to whether a user device coupled to said second EoS device supports full duplex, wherein: if said user device works in full duplex mode, it is unnecessary to interpret the LFP frames, and the LFP frames are sent directly to said user device; and if said user device works in half duplex mode, the control field of each LFP frame is interpreted, wherein if the control field controls to start sending, a back pressure control signal will be cancelled, and otherwise, the back pressure

control signal will be sent to make said user device detect a conflict and stop transmitting data.”

As stated on page 13 of the present Action, neither Ramsden nor Ramakrishnan disclose the above features of claim 8. The action relies on US Patent No. 7,031,341 B2 (Yu) to overcome the deficiencies of Ramsden and Ramkrishnan. Applicants respectfully submit that Yu does not disclose at least the above cited feature of amended claim 8. Yu does not disclose or suggest the feature of claim 8 of “said second EoS device interprets and executes said LFP frames according to whether a user device coupled to said second EoS device supports full duplex.” In Yu, the transparency processing occurs after FCS computation and the EOS apparatus examines the entire frame between any two Flag Sequences (see column 18, lines 10-30). Nowhere in Yu is it suggested that the operation of the EOS device is dependent on whether a user device attached to the EOS device operates supports full-duplex or only supports half-duplex. The techniques disclosed in Yu result in the EOS device operating without regard to whether a user device attached to the EOS device supports full duplex. This is wholly different from the feature of claim 8, where whether the user device supports duplex determines how the EOS device handles the LFP frame. Thus, Yu does not disclose the above distinguishing features of claim 8. Claim 8, as amended, is therefore patentable over any reasonable combination of Ramsden, Ramakrishnan, and Yu.

Claims 9, 12, and 16 are submitted to be allowable over Ramsden in view of Ramakrishnan further in view of Yu for at least being dependent on allowable claim 8.

Claim 25 has been amended similarly to claim 8, incorporating the features of claim 26, making the rejection of claim 26 in the present Action pertinent in place of the rejection of claim 25. Claim 25, as amended, is submitted to be allowable over Ramsden in view of Ramakrishnan further in view of Yu for at least the same reasons as claim 8 above.

Claim 27 has been amended to be dependent on claim 25. Claim 27 is submitted to be allowable over Ramsden in view of Ramakrishnan further in view of Yu for at least being dependent on allowable claim 25.

Claims 13-16 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ramsden in view of Ramakrishnan further in view of Yu. Claims 13-15 have been canceled. Claim 16 has

been amended to be dependent on claim 8. Claim 16 is submitted to be allowable over Ramsden in view of Ramakrishnan further in view of Yu for at least being dependent on allowable claim 8.

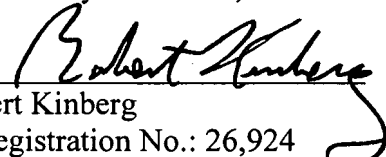
Claims 11, 20 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ramsden in view of Ramakrishnan further in view of US Patent No. 5,673,254 (Crayford). Claims 20 and 21 have been canceled. Claim 11 is submitted to be allowable over Ramsden in view of Ramakrishnan for at least being dependent on allowable claim 8. Crayford does not remedy the deficiencies of Ramsden and Ramakrishnan with respect to claim 8. Therefore, claim 11 is submitted to be allowable over Ramsden in view of Ramakrishnan further in view of Crayford.

CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

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Respectfully submitted,

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